

Port Elgin and Saugeen Township Beachers' Organization

Notes from the Annual Meeting July 11, 2009

Directors Present: John Kyles, Larry Main, Phyllis Fagan, John Mann, Chris Meyer, David Martin Glenn Reist, Clare Rennie, Penny Young, Peter Zinkan, Bill Rose, Philip ten Kortenaar

Directors Regrets: Mike Duquette, Anne McNeilly,

Notes:

- **The 2009 Annual Meeting of the Port Elgin and Saugeen Township Beachers' Organization was "Called to Order" by President John Kyles at 9.17 AM and in so doing extended a warm welcome to all those in attendance.**
- He also introduced all Directors present and explained changes in the operation and management of the Beachers' Organization.
- With the resignation, a few weeks ago of the General Manager Tina Hill, it was necessary that Board members take on operational responsibilities for the New Year. This was done by members accepting specific work assignments.
- Pres. John recognized Director Penny Young for her work during the past year on the new Directory. Pictures were contributed by Ron Cooper and in the future all publications from the Organization will carry the picture which is on the cover of the new Directory. All Members were urged to examine the publication and to support the many Sponsors listed. Their donations and sponsorships make the annual publication of the Directory possible.
- **Pres. John gave a snap shot overview of some of the new developments that have taken place over the past year and some of the events and features in the municipality that might be of interest to those who have just arrived for the summer season such as:**
 - The Visitors Centre in Port Elgin is a great place to go to get information on what is happening in Port Elgin
 - The Antique Show is scheduled for next weekend. It is a great event.
 - The Dr. Earl Health Centre is now open. It is not an Emergency Health Centre so you will still have to go to the Southampton Hospital for that form of care
 - During the weekend of September 18-20 the Big Band Concert will be performing in Port Elgin
 - There are some serious parking issues at the Gobles Grove Beach area which our Organization is working on with municipal officials.

- Infant change tables have been installed in the Ladies Washroom at Gobles Grove.
 - It is not legal to post commercial signs on municipal posts.
 - The bad weed problem has been mostly solved by means of spraying by the Municipality but we should monitor the situation closely and report any serious outbreaks to Bill Jones, Director of Public Works.
 - The Municipality recommends 40 KMPH in heavy traffic areas since speeds of lesser amounts cannot be enforced by local police.
 - The Waterfront Committee listened to our Organization on suggested signage in heavy beach traffic areas and all signs have been posted.
 - As reported in the local press our Organization contributed to the Fund to purchase and train a new police Dog.
- President John asked for Approval of the Agenda. Moved by John Mann, Seconded by David Martin. Approved
 - A request was made from the floor that the Minutes from the Annual Meeting be sent out earlier so that Members can have time to think about issues and accomplishments. It was agreed that this would be done and as well they will be placed on the Website.
 - A brief presentation was made by Mr. Jared Evans on the subject of rain barrels for water conservation purposes.
 - **President John Introduced Mayor Mike Smith who began his presentation by expressing appreciation for the work that has been done by the Beachers' Organization and hoped that the close working relationship would continue. His presentation and the discussion which followed covered a wide range of topics such as:**
 - ✓ Funding at the municipal level provides a total budget of 80M.
 - ✓ The demolition of the old water treatment plant will likely happen this fall but no information is available as yet as to how this might alter the Waterfront Strategic Plan.
 - ✓ The municipality will be working on the provision of 30-40 affordable housing units.
 - ✓ The building of a new swimming pool is still under consideration with a request to be made to the public for input.
 - ✓ A new playground is going to be built in Jubilee Park at Southampton for children with disabilities. Most playgrounds in the Saugeen Shores Municipality are not accessible to children with physical disabilities. There will be a call for support and donations.

- ✓ The municipality is still underserved in terms of Medical Doctors. The ER facility at Southampton may be closed in the evenings because of the shortage but that is not as yet certain.
 - ✓ The renovations to the Library are nearing completion and positive comments were made from the audience about the new technologies that are now available and that it is very much a “Green Facility”. The fund for the Library is still short so contributions would be appreciated.
 - ✓ A number of people are concerned about wind turbines and the growth in new installations that is happening. Unfortunately local communities have little say in this matter now as the decision making is primarily at the Provincial level.
 - ✓ Members of the audience praised the Mayor in terms how much better the main town section was looking.
- **President John thanked the Mayor for his comments and response to questions and then introduced the Chief of Police Dan Rivett. His comments and the discussion which arose through questions from the floor covered the following topics:**
 - Boat and jet-skis in designated swimming areas; Screeching tires (Green Street); Fire works on non designated days and etc. In all cases the Chief urged people to call the police and make a complaint.
 - He strongly supports the proposed Winter Patrol Program of the Beachers’ but he also urged everyone to take advantage of the “home article Identification program” which is available to all Members.
 - OPP are doing spot checks of Boaters to determine if they have a valid “Operator’s Card”
 - Local Police do random Ride Program checks during both the day and night.
 - The working relationship between the Beachers’ Organization and the Police Department is good and the Chief looks forward to working with us in the future to make the Community safe for all.
 - **President John thanked the Police Chief for his time to-day and for all the good work he and his entire Force are doing to make the community a safe place to live work and play and then introduced Mike Myatt, Director of Community Services. Mr. Myatt covered the following topics.**
 - ✓ Signage in Port Elgin will be upgraded shortly.

- ✓ Developments and plans for the Trail System including the refurbishing of some trail bridges is progressing very well with over 80 % of the trails now completed. In total when it is completed there will be 35 to 40 km of trails.
 - ✓ It is illegal to remove stones from the beach.
 - ✓ Testing of the lake water in Saugeen Shores is not done routinely but samples at the intake lines is tested and posted to the Saugeen Shores Web Site.
 - ✓ The Director thanked the Organization for all there support on various activities of his Department.
- **President John Thanked Mr. Myatt for his presence and for the great work that his Department is doing.**
 - **Discussion on the New Winter Patrol Program**
 - The program will be operational from the first week of November 2009 until the last week of March 2010 inclusive.
 - Checks will be done by the patrolman on a weekly basis.
 - The patrolman will maintain a log of all inspections.
 - Pictures will be taken when damage or other unusual situations occur and the Owner will be contacted.
 - When the Annual Invoice is sent to Owners a copy of the log for their respective property will be included.
 - It is the desire of the Beachers' Organization to increase Membership with this new service.
 - If an Owner wishes to have additional services provided by the Winter Patrolman, such as snow on the roof, they may contact the Patrolman directly.
 - Financial Statements were prepared and presented by Vice President Larry Main.
 - Ratification Statements were read and approved with a Motion by Dave Mc Naught and seconded by Chris Meyer.
 - The Meeting was adjourned at 11.21 AM

Prepared by Clare Rennie, Secretary, October 07, 2009

